



Cranberry Area Transit Study Steering Committee Meeting

Thursday, June 10, 2004
Meeting No. 3

Minutes by Jamie L. Brush

The Cranberry Area Transit Study Steering Committee held its third meeting on Thursday, June 10, 2004 from 1:00-2:30 PM at the Cranberry Township Municipal Building. The following people attended:

NAME	REPRESENTING
John Milius, Co-Chair	Cranberry Township Board of Supervisors
Dave Johnston, Co-Chair	Butler County Planning Commission
Tom Smith	Borough of Seven Fields
Dan Santoro	Cranberry Township
John Paul	Butler Township-City Joint Municipal Transit Authority
Leann Doran	McCormick Taylor
Roger Dunlap	Middlesex Township
Lynda Conway	Port Authority of Allegheny County
Rich Feder	Port Authority of Allegheny County
Marlene Lott	Representative Daryl Metcalfe's Office
Pam Wahal	Senator Jane Ori'e's Office
Chuck Imbrogno	Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission
Carol Uminski	Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission
Maureen Frumen	Three Rivers Workforce Investment Board
Bruce Ahern	Michael Baker Jr., Inc.
Max Heckman	Michael Baker Jr., Inc.
Keith Johnson	URS
Glenda Murphy	Olszak Management Consulting, Inc.
Jamie Brush	Olszak Management Consulting, Inc.

Presentation

Bruce Ahern welcomed everyone and the meeting began with introductions.

Bruce continued with the meeting agenda.

- The meeting objectives and project status were discussed.

Keith Johnson reviewed the Draft Needs Summary

- The needs summary has taken all of the public input from community outreach meetings and combined them into a 3-page summation.
- After reviewing the document Keith asked the room for comments

Tom Smith: Why is the Borough of Seven Fields not identified as an activity center?

Keith Johnson: This is a draft of what we heard at public outreach meetings, so even though it's not mentioned in the needs summary, it does appear in the service concepts.

Dan Santoro: Will this document become the final needs summary? Because if it does then we need to add several things to it, such as Seven Fields.

Keith Johnson: This document is a work in progress. It can be added to up until the final report is due at the end of the study.

Carol: During public outreach meetings we heard more about transit service on certain corridors as opposed to transit serving specific townships and boroughs.

Tom Smith: I just wanted to clarify that I'm concerned with the future development in the Seven Fields area and think that it will become a major activity center in the near future.

Glenda Murphy: In number 4d, the needs summary refers to a Multi-Modal Center. Did we really hear anything about that from the public?

Maureen Frumen: In the 2020 Vision Study the public stated that they would like a Multi-Modal Center.

Lynda Conway: In number 4 on the Needs Summary, the document refers to frequency of service. I think it should also refer to the span of service as well as frequency. Also in number 4, you refer to "an appropriate mix of fleet types". Maybe it should say "flexible mix of vehicles."

Bruce Ahern reviewed the regional, study area, and local service concepts.

- Meeting attendees were asked to openly comment on the preliminary service concepts.
- There are 7 preliminary service concepts, with everything operating out of the transit hub located across from the Cranberry Township Municipal Building.
- Take note that there is no direct service to Oakland because of the frequency of connections to Oakland from Downtown (Port Authority service)

Regional Service Concept Comments

Lynda Conway: Just a comment on the service to Oakland, Port Authority customers like direct service and are not inclined to ride if there is a transfer involved.

John Paul: In regards to the connection to Butler City, we need to consider what is doable and at what cost. A Butler City connection is secondary and was planned to be considered as a different phase. This study was intended for Southwestern Butler County.

Dave Johnston: What about a connection to the airport?

Bruce Ahern: That just seems like a very hard route to serve and it seems unrealistic.

Lynda Conway: The Port Authority has service to the airport from downtown (28X). An option would be to connect Cranberry with that service.

Max: Maybe the possible Multi-modal center could be a place where independent airport shuttles ran their services from.

Chuck: Didn't we hear public comments about transit to the Grove City Outlet Mall?

Bruce Ahern: That was just an oversight and we will check into it.

Study Area Service Concept Comments

Dave Johnston: Seniors from Evans City and Mars have been very vocal about their need for transit.

John Paul: Should there be a local circulator in Zelienople?

Bruce Ahern: The area would allow for that option.

Carol Uminski: What is the preferred route from Evans City to Cranberry?

Dave Johnston: Route 528

Carol Uminski: What if that's not possible?

Dave: I'm not sure.

Max Heckman: Is service to Valencia worthwhile?

John Paul: Put it through the screening process, but I don't see the numbers there.

Chuck Imbrogno: Is there a destination south of Valencia?

Dave Johnston: There's nothing.

Local Service Concepts Comments

Dan Santoro: In regards to the loop on the western side of Cranberry, Executive Drive should be included in order to serve the Community College and the business park. As for the eastern loop, we should include in the plans to serve the new Regional Learning Alliance campus.

Dave Johnston: The preliminary concept for the western loop should include Powell Road, because it would encompass a lot more residences. It's a better idea.

Dan Santoro: Using Powell Road would include serving a larger range of residences, but Haine School Road is more densely populated.

Carol: The lines on these maps are just boundaries, not proposed routes. Using the boundary of Powell Road does not mean service will not travel Haine School Road as well.

Lynda Conway: Have amenities been worked into the budget?

Bruce Ahern: Yes.

Bruce Ahern reviewed the Three Rivers Workforce Investment Board Job Access Study.

Glenda Murphy spoke about the continuing public outreach effort

- The project team needs the Steering Committee's help to identify additional community groups to speak with.

Next Steps

- The project team will prepare for the Community Open House on Tuesday, July 22 at the Cranberry Township Municipal Building.
- All comments and suggestions from this meeting will be worked into the needs summary and the preliminary service concepts.
- The Steering Committee will reconvene on July 22 at 1:00 at the Cranberry Township Municipal Building.